



HF Happenings



South African Radio League * Suid-Afrikaanse Radioliga
Member Society of the International Amateur Radio Union since 1925
www.sarl.org.za www.iau.org www.iau-r1.org

June

31 May to 2 June - Karoo Cultural Festival, Prince Alfred Hamlet, Ceres
1 and 2 - IARU Region 1 CW Field Day; RSGB CW Field Day
2 - Comrades Marathon
6 to 9 - Wacky Wine Weekend, Robertson
7 to 9 - Dr. Livingstone's Bicentenary Carnival and Festival, Livingstone, Zambia
9 - ZS4 Sprint
13 to 16 - Royal MacNab, Lady Grey
15 - Radio Technology in Action, Durban
16 - Youth Day; Father's Day
17 - Public Holiday; World QRP Day
20 to 24 - SARL Top Band QSO Party
21 - Winter Solstice; Schools close
22 and 23 - ARRL Field Day
25 to 27 - GAREC 2013, Zürich
28 to 30 - Ham Radio 2013, Friedrichshafen; Kirkwood Wildlife Festival, Kirkwood
29 and 30 - Christmas in the Winter, Tulbagh
27 June to 7 July - National Arts Festival, Grahamstown
28 June to 7 July - Oyster Festival, Knysna
29 June to 2 July - Dr. Livingstone's Bicentenary Fishing Competition, Livingstone, Zambia

HAM RADIO

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World QRP Day

On Monday 17 June, it is World QRP Day. And it is a public holiday in South Africa (unfortunately not for World QRP Day). So you have no excuse not to get on the air, unless you are one of those who received a listeners licence instead of an amateur licence after paying your ICASA invoice.

What should you do on 17 June? Firstly switch off that amplifier (yes, it does have an on/off switch), then turn down the power on your rig and try QRP power. If you have an ICOM IC-703 or a Yeasu FT-7B or FT-817, you are already QRP!

And now call CQ and see how many kilometres per watt you can achieve. Plug in the paddle and try some CW. Or what about PSK, RTTY or any of the other digital modes! You will be amazed at what you can achieve with QRP.

SARL Top Band QSO Party

This is a fun activity to promote contacts on 160 metres between radio amateurs in Southern African countries and to encourage radio amateurs to apply for the SARL Top Band Award. The event is open to all licensed amateurs that have access to the 160 metre band. The QSO Party is on the air from 00:00 UTC on Thursday 20 June 2013 until 00:00 UTC on Monday 24 June 2013. Phone activity takes place between 1 840 and 1 850 kHz with CW on 1 810 to 1 838 kHz.

The exchange is a RS(T) report and provincial or country abbreviation. Following the QSO, the station must change dial frequency by at least 2 KHz for the next QSO, unless a period of 10 minutes has lapsed between contacts. The frequency of each QSO must be shown on the log sheet. Each station can be worked once per mode i.e. once on Phone and again with CW.

Each contact will count three (3) points. Each South African call area and each DXCC country worked will be awarded with five (5) additional bonus points. Total score = (Total QSO points) + (Bonus points). Log sheets must be submitted within 7 days after the contest to contest@sarl.org.za.

First RTA Heads to Port Elizabeth

The South African Radio League will hold the first of the new season of Radio Technology In Action Symposiums in Port Elizabeth on Saturday 27 July 2013 at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University, hosted by the Port Elizabeth Amateur Radio Society (PEARS).

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Current Summits-on-the-Air (SOTA) activities are announced at
www.sotawatch.org

And more SOTA information can be found at www.sota.org.uk



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The theme of the RTA is "Amateur Radio Embraces Digital". The programme features amongst others a follow up on Software Defined Radio, taking it to the next level with an easy to build VFO. Other topics include a Practical approach to antennas for the HF, operating your HF station remotely from the office and how to get the most from a multimeter. The SDR VFO kit, as well as a CD with the presentations, videos and other articles of interest will be available at the event.

The full programme and booking details will be available on the SARL website from later next week. In addition, stay tuned to SARL News for regular updates and information. Your action right now is to get the date into your diary and if you are from areas surrounding Port Elizabeth start making travel arrangements and arrange lift clubs. The RTA is an amateur radio event not to be missed.

Have **YOU** done anything today to Promote Amateur Radio?

South African Islands-on-the-Air, part the last

This is the last part of the series on Islands around the coast of South Africa. I hope readers have enjoyed the article. Maybe this will lead to the activation of an island or two in the near future!

The Islands of the Cross

Norbert Klages, Robert Crawford & Bruce Dyer, Port Elizabeth Museum & Marine and Coastal Management

St Croix and its two sister islets of Jahleel Island and Brenton Rock lie approximately 22 km north-east of Port Elizabeth at 33°48'S, 25°46'E and 5 km from the mouth of the Coega River. These quartzitic outcrops of the Table Mountain Group, which rise to 53 m on St Croix (size 12 ha), are nowadays almost entirely bare of soil. This was not always so. Resulting from two hundred years of exploitation, all our islands are profoundly disturbed by man: humans have reshaped, often radically, the fauna and flora on the islands along the coast of southern Africa. St Croix is a striking example. Portuguese seafarers in 1575 saw the bottom part of the island 'brown with seawolves [seals] and the top white with birds'. In just four years during the 1820s, the seals were slaughtered to extinction. Unlike Bird Island, St Croix was to prove a poor source of guano but nevertheless, starting in 1885, all its soil accumulated over centuries was bagged and shipped off as fertilizer robbing the penguins of nesting material.

Penguin eggging was very popular on St Croix until well into the 1950s, thousands of African Penguin eggs being removed at a time. The unsustainable nature of this harvest became clear when Government Guano Island ornithologist Bob Rand counted only around 12 000 African Penguins in 1956. An aerial census undertaken by Graham Ross 15 years after the cessation of eggging showed that the island population had bounced back to around 21 000 birds. A peak count of 63 000 penguins in 1993 by the authors of this contribution gained the island the status of the last stronghold of the species but the euphoria was soon replaced by consternation when the 1999 count documented the loss of 17 000 birds in six years. The irony of this decline is that it has occurred in the first marine reserve proclaimed in South Africa (in 1981; surrounding by 500 m St Croix and its two satellite islets of Jahleel and Brenton) and in a Provincial Na-

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The bare rock of St Croix crowded with hundreds of African Penguins. Photo Norbert Klages



An old trying pot, testimony of a failed whaling venture on the island in 1890. Photo Norbert Klages



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ture Reserve (since 1987; encompassing all Algoa Bay breeding islands). What better example is needed to show that environmental legislation without conservation action is like a dog without teeth?

Sizeable numbers of Cape Cormorants and Whitebreasted Cormorants, African Black Oystercatchers and Rock Pigeons breed on the Islands of the Cross. A few Grey Herons and Black-headed Herons build their nests on the top sections of Jahleel and St Croix. Kelp Gulls breed in small numbers (on St Croix and Jahleel) but they are frequently joined by more from elsewhere in search of food. In some years, a small breeding colony of Roseate Terns forms in the eastern corner of St Croix (about 20 - 30 nests). Mixed flocks of up to five species of tern (Antarctic Tern, Caspian Tern, Common Tern, Sandwich Tern, Swift Tern) roost seasonally along the shoreline of the islands, mostly during daytime. Waders are scarce, except for Turnstones foraging in the washed-up macro-algae on the rocky shore.

None of the Islands of the Cross is manned; the buildings on St Croix, which once housed the staff of the Government Guano Islands and later a field laboratory of the University of Port Elizabeth, have fallen into disrepair and the surrounds of the large rainwater tank are now favourite hiding places for the islands endemic *Pachydactylus* gecko and *Cordylus* girdled lizard species.

But the woes of this little archipelago are not yet over: a massive industrial development at Coega and a new harbour just 500 m from Jahleel Island are threatening to change this stretch of coastline forever. Just how little value do South Africans attach to their off-shore islands!

Bird Island, Algoa Bay, Port Elizabeth

Norbert Klages & Tony Tree, Port Elizabeth Museum and Avian Demography Unit

Sixty-two kilometres from Port Elizabeth and 8 km from the nearest mainland at Woody Cape lie the Bird Islands in Algoa Bay (33 50'S, 26 17'E). This cluster of four islands boasts several seabird superlatives. Bird Island has southern Africa's most populous gannetry with about 65 000 breeding pairs nesting densely on 2,4 hectares. During the winter months it is the chief breeding ground of the endangered South African Roseate Tern (250 pairs). Also in late winter and spring, huge roosts (>5 000 birds) of Antarctic Terns and Common Terns dot the rocky shoreline. In the 1930s, less than 100 pairs of African Penguins were breeding on Bird Island, having been decimated by decades of egg collecting and other forms of human disturbance. Since the cessation of guano scraping during the late 1980s, penguins are thriving again on Bird and Seal Island. The population is now well over 10 000 birds. The extermination of feral rabbits in 1990 by John Kieser, an ex-cat hunter on subantarctic Marion Island, has allowed the naturally sparse vegetation to grow back from over-grazing and it is now again providing the ground cover for penguin and tern chicks to shelter from the elements and Kelp Gull attacks.

A few hundred Cape Cormorants and dozens of White-breasted Cormorants breed across the narrow channel on Seal and Stag Islands. As is typical for these



Cape Cormorants nest on ledges of the steep slopes. Photo Norbert Klages



The Bird Islands viewed from the south-west: Bird Island with its huge gannetry, lighthouse dating from 1852 and cottages built at the heyday of guano scraping are in the foreground. In the back to the left are the Black Rocks crowded by 7000 Cape Fur Seals during the breeding season. Across the channel from Bird is Seal Island (which has no seals!). Stag Island (to the right) is connected to Seal at neap tide and mostly not in the picture. Photo Norbert Klages



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species, numbers of breeders fluctuate between years in response to the abundance of their main prey species. Poor management practices at Port Elizabeth's rubbish dumps, seaside gastronomies and fish industries have artificially elevated the Kelp Gull population. Approximately 450 Kelp Gulls pairs were breeding on Seal and Stag Islands in 1999 and were making life hell for the resident penguins. South Africa's easternmost breeding colony of Swift Terns (670 pairs in 2000) is situated on Seal Island. African Black Oystercatchers are another species that breeds successfully in most years and have slowly been increasing in numbers.

Among the non-breeding shorebirds, Turnstones, Little Egrets and Whimbrels are regularly seen foraging. The full bird list is quite impressive and includes such out-of-place oddities as Willow Warbler, Lark-like Bunting, Kurrichane Buttonquail and Pink-backed Pelican. The islands are a great place to watch pelagic bird species, especially during stormy conditions when albatrosses and the larger petrels can be spotted close by.

Bird ringing has always featured strongly as a research technique used by marine ornithologists active on Bird Island. Since 1978 some 42 000 Cape Gannets and more than 2 200 African Penguins have been ringed there. Intensive re-trapping of banded birds has shown that both Cape Gannets and African Penguins are highly faithful to their birthplace when the time for breeding comes, although they mingle freely with birds from west of Algoa Bay during phases of post-breeding and juvenile dispersal. In recent years, some 1 000 terns of three species have been added to the ringing total. Subsequent controls and retraps have underlined the global importance of this island for Antarctic, Common and Roseate Terns. Bird Island is also the site of a long-term seabird-monitoring programme by the Port Elizabeth Museum, which is funded by DEAT's Marine and Coastal Management.

Presently the Bird Islands are administered by the Directorate of Nature Conservation in the Eastern Cape who maintain only a perfunctory presence on Bird Island. It is widely expected that the islands be turned over to South African National Parks in the near future to be incorporated into the Greater Addo National Park. If this becomes true, in time to come the development of small-volume, low-impact tourism is likely to make Bird Island accessible to the enthusiastic sea-birder.

Amateur Radio from St Croix and Bird Island

Visiting the RSGB IOTA web site, I see only one activation of Bird Island and that was ZS26BI from 9 to 13 March 1998. Barry, ZS1FJ was part of the team, and if memory serves me correctly, I think Hans, ZS6ALJ, now ZS1ALJ was part of that team.

Then we also have an Island awaiting an IOTA number. The application has been sent in, but the IOTA Committee are taking their time on this one. The Island has been activated in 2010, 2011 and 2012, but not a word from the IOTA Committee.

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Gulls on patrol. Photo Norbert Klages



Cape Gannet in flight. Photo Norbert Klages



Looking across to the mainland at Woody Cape. Photo Norbert Klages



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At this stage the team is not sure if they will activate Traffic Island in 2013. Where you ask is Traffic Island? In the ZS4 call area! Where else!!

What about our neighbours? Mozambique and Namibia. I can remember IOTA activations when Namibia or South West Africa had the ZS3 call and Walvis Bay had ZS9.

Mozambique

AF-061 Cabo Delgado District group = Ibo, Macaloe, Matemo, Mechanga, Med-jumbi, Mefunvo, Met-udo, Mionge, Mogundulo, Niuni, Queramimbi, Quifuqui, Quilaluia, Quirambo, Quirimba, Quisiva, Quissanga, Quisungura, Rolas, Rongui, Sencar, Suna, Tambuzi, Tecomaji, Vamizi, Vumba, S 10°30 - 13°32 E 40°20 - 40°55

AF-088 Nampula District group (=Angoche, Buzio, Caldeira, Goa, Mafamede, Me-queli, Mocambique, Moma, Njovo, Puga Puga, Sena, Sete-Paus, S 13°32 - 16°50 E 39°07 - 40°55

AF-103 Zambezia District group = Casuarina, Coroa, Epidendron, Fogo, Inhacamba [aka Chinde], Pambane, Silva, Timbue, S 16°50 - 18°50 E 36°17 - 39°10

AF-098 Sofala District group = Chigogoro, Chiloane, Inhanguaia. *Note: not Buene.* S 18°50 - 21°00 E 34°43 - 036°17

AF-072 Inhambane District group = Bazaruto, Benguerua, Lunene, Mandenga, Porcos, Ratos, Santa Carolina, Santa Isabel. S 21°00 - 24°50 E 34°35 - 035°40

AF-066 Gaza / Maputo District group = Inhaca, Portugueses, Xefina Grande, S 24°50 - 26°50 E 32°35 - 34°35

Namibia

AF-102P Erongo / Hardap Region group = Hollams Bird Island, S 21°08 - 24°56 E 13°36 - 014°50

AF-070 Karas Region group = Albatross, Ichaboe, Mercury, North & South Long, Penguin, Plum Pudding, Possession and Seal Islands, S 24°56 - 28°40 E 14°43 - 016°25

Or you could visit Madagascar and its many islands or Mauritius, Réunion, Mayotte, Comoros, Zanzibar, Pemba, Rodriguez, Saint Brandon, Seychelles, Diego Garcia, Tristan da Cunha, St Helena, Ascension and a few others!

DXCC News

Bill Moore, NC1L, ARRL Awards Branch Manager, reports that the following operation is approved for DXCC credit - VU7KV - Lakshadweep Islands (DXCC Entity Code - 142); May 2013 operation

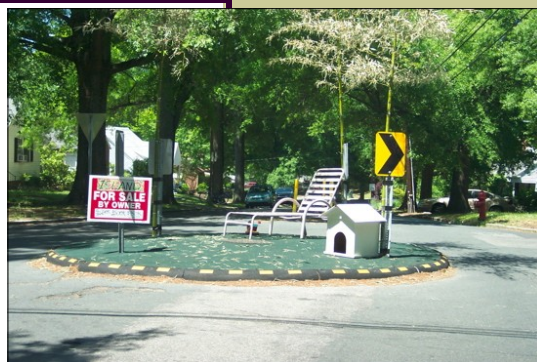
Note: If anyone had this contact rejected in a recent submission, send an e-mail to bmoore@arrl.org to be placed on the list for an update to your record.

Thanks, Tjerk, ZS6P.

Amateur Radio in Ghana

The first Amateur Radio Administration course, aimed at bringing together operators, industry experts and other relevant bodies to exchange experiences and best practices in the field, is underway in Accra.

The weeklong workshop is being organised by the National Communication Authority (NCA) in partnership with the International Telecommunication Union and the International Amateur Radio Union (IARU).



Traffic Island. Photo: The Masked Soup Bone



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Speaking at the opening session, Mr Paarock VanPercy, Director General of the NCA underscored the importance of amateur radio operations, saying they had contributed immensely in the fields of science, engineering, industry and social services. He advised Senior High Schools, polytechnics and universities to apply for licenses from the NCA to expose students to amateur radio operations for research.

He also said the Ghana Police Service, Immigration Service, Armed Forces and the National Disaster Management Organisation should consider this as an important tool in disaster recovery activities, especially as a backup for other communication modes which may be disabled in serious disasters. He announced that, the NCA would soon publish the syllabus for the amateur radio examination and clearly outline modalities for the examination.

Mr Hans Blondeel Timmerman PB2T, President of Region 1 of the IARU, said amateur radio operations provided technical career opportunities as well as leisure-time and research activities. He was optimistic that, the workshop would build the capacity of participants who would in turn actively engage the youth in the technology for development.

Read the Government of Ghana press release www.ghana.gov.gh/index.php/news/general-news/22349-first-amateur-radio-administration-course-workshop-opens-in-accra

APRS Messenger Android app now released

Chris, G4HYG, says, "I have just released a new APRS app for Android phones and tablets so that radio amateurs can send APRS position beacons and messages from an Android phone or tablet over a 3G or WiFi link to the APRS-IS internet system. It can also link by Bluetooth to the new Bluetooth version of the APRS TNC Digi Tracker.

I have designed it to be simple to use, as it only needs the user to enter a call sign and APRS pass code to get started. The APRS beacon rate is fixed at 3 minutes and the message decay is set at 31 seconds so that it can send messages to VHF APRS stations via a two-way APRS igate.

Menu options include GPS position information including WGS84 location for worldwide use and OSGB location including National Grid Reference for UK users. Another menu option also opens an OpenStreetMap centred on the GPS fix.

The app can be used on any Android phone or tablet with GPS (and Bluetooth for use with the Bluetooth version of the Digi Tracker).

More information on a new web page at www.crosscountrywireless.net/aprs_messenger_android.html.

The app can be downloaded from the Google Play Store. There is a small charge for the app to help pay for the development tool licensing fee and paracetamols!"

African DX

A2, Botswana. Roger, ZS6RJ, will once again be on a one man DXpedition for 4 to 5 days in Botswana (WW loc KG47ac) as A25RJ starting 15 June. Activity will be from Tuli Block, Eastern Botswana, focusing on 80 - 10 metres, CW and Roger states "Look forward to working you in the pile-ups!" QSL via LoTW or direct using the QRZ.com address. There is no bureau service for Botswana.

C9, Mozambique. Antonio, EA4GBA, will be active as C91GBA from Matola starting 27 June until 15 December. Activity will be on all HF bands using SSB and a Yaesu

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FT-857 with 100 watts into a dipole. QSL via EA4GBA direct (w/SAE and 2 USDs). QSL cards will be answered once he arrives back in Spain early 2014.

Cote d'Ivoire, TU. Dim, F5SWB will be active as TU5DF from Cote d'Ivoire from late June until the end of October. He will operate mainly CW, with some SSB and PSK31 on 40 - 6 metres. QSL via home call, direct only. Logsearch on Clublog.

C9, Mozambique. Gert, ZS6AYU, plans to be active holiday style as C91GR from Bilenene, Mozambique, between 19 and 23 July 2013. He will be active on 40 to 10 m CW only with 200 - 400 W to a vertical antenna. QSL via ZS6AYU.

C8, Mozambique (Update/Press Release #2). Tom, N4XP, and Don, N1DG, the C82DX DXpedition Co-leaders, posted the following press release (#2) on 14 June on the DXpedition's Web page [edited]: "Planning and preparations are continuing for our October 2013 Mozambique DXpedition. Our license has been issued and is in hand with the call sign C82DX. We are happy to announce this will be the first use of the C82 prefix. We will be active starting 15 October, for eight days with operations ongoing through 22 October. We are also pleased to announce Ray Novak, N9JA, has joined our team.

ZS6P (*C91P and not C91TJL*) and ZS6RI will travel to our operating site the first week of June for scouting, planning and preparation purposes. Our location in Xai Xai is located directly on the ocean in the southern part of Mozambique.

Low Band operations remain the primary objective, and we have secured both Titanex and Battle Creek Special verticals. We have also obtained the sponsorship of Array Solutions with one of their new shared apex loop array RX systems. They join ICOM (our main equipment supplier with IC7600s) and SteppIR (CrankIRs) as our major donors to our DXpedition.

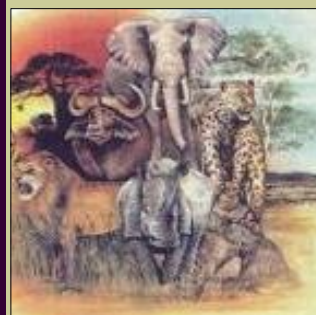
During the day we will operate all HF bands including 6 metres. Our website is now live, www.c82dx.com, where you can learn more about our plans."

Republic of the Congo, TN. Arie, PA3A, Ad, PA8AD, Angelina, PA8AN and Marian, PD1AEG will be active as TN5MS from Pointe Noire, Republic of the Congo from 28 September to 11 October. They plan to operate on 160 to 10 metres CW, SSB and RTTY, using three stations with amplifiers and several beam and vertical antennas. The team will provide support and raise funds for a Mercy Ships Charity Project. QSL via PA3AWW, direct or bureau. The log will be uploaded to LoTW 6 months after the operation. An OQRS for direct cards will be available on the expedition's website. Further information on the project can be found at www.tn5ms.nl

African Islands

EA8, Canary Islands. Look for EH8FSJ to be active from Lomo Jurgon bei Arucas on Gran Canaria from 10 to 24 June. Activity will be on the HF bands. QSL via EA8RKL.

5R, Madagascar. Flavio, IW2NEF, will be active as 5R8NE from Nosy-Be Island (AF-057) between 16 and 30 July. Activity will be on 40 - 10 metres using SSB, and a FT-857 into a fishing rod antenna at 10 metres. He also plans to be in the RSGB IOTA Contest (27 and 28 July). QSL via IK2DUW.



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EF8, Canary Islands. Luis, EA8AY, will be active as EF8X from Tenerife Island (IOTA AF-004, DIE S-012, WLOTA 1276, EAA TF) during the RSGB IOTA Contest (27 and 28 July) as a Single-Op/All-band entry. QSL via W2GR. Visit his Web site at <http://www.ea8ay.com/ef8x>

Pantelleria Island, AF-019. Emilio, IZ1GAR, will be active as IH9R from Pantelleria Island (IIA TP-001, WLOTA 0041) during the CQ WW DX CW Contest (23 and 24 November) as a Single-Op/All-Band entry. Pantelleria counts as Multiplier Zone 33 Africa Italy for the CQ WW DX rule (islands are located over the African continent platform). QSL via IZ1GAR, direct or by the Bureau.

Tromelin Island, AF-031. Seb, F5UFX, says, "After many successful DXpeditions in the past, F6KOP team and F6KDF (Lyon DX Gang) are joining together in an effort to put Tromelin back on the air in 2014.

In the last months we have exchanged many documents, emails with the authorities and we have also met them in their office. Today, we are working together in a very efficient way, and even if all papers are not yet finalised, we are very confident for our project. We hope to give you some good news as soon as possible."

Contest Calendar

NCCC RTTY Sprint

01:30 - 02:00 UTC 14 June

Mode: RTTY

Bands: (see rules)

Classes: (none)

Exchange: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 16 June 2013

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com/>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.nccsprint.com/rules.html>

NCCC Sprint Ladder

02:30 - 03:00 UTC 14 June

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15 m

Classes: Single Op

Max power: 100 watts

Exchange: (see rules)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: NA station: 1 point per QSO; non-NA station: 1 point per QSO with an NA station

Multipliers: Each US state (including KL7 and KH6) once per band; Each VE province once per band; Each North American country (except W/VE) once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 16 June 2013

E-mail logs to: (none)

Post log summary at:

<http://www.3830scores.com>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://www.nccsprint.com/rules.html>

All Asian DX CW Contest

00:00 UTC 15 June to 24:00 UTC 16 June

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Asian Single Op Single Band - high or low; Non-Asian Single Op Single Band - high; JA Single Op Multi Band - high, low, junior or silver; Asian Single Op Multi Band - high or low; Non-Asian Single Op Multi Band - high; Multi-Single; Multi-Multi

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts

Exchange: RST and 2-digit age

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: Asian Stations: DXCC entities once per band; non-Asian Stations: Asian prefixes once per band

This week's contests compiled by Bruce Horn, WA7BNM. The period covered is 10 to 17 June 2013



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Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 31 July 2013

E-mail logs to: aacw@jarl.or.jp

Mail logs to: JARL, All Asian DX Contest, CW, 170-8073, Japan

Find rules at: http://www.jarl.or.jp/English/4_Library/A-4-3_Contests/2013AA_rule.htm

Ukrainian DX Classic RTTY Contest

12:00 UTC 15 June to 11:59 UTC 16 June

Mode: RTTY

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Op All Band - low or high; Single Op All Band 6-Hour; Single Op Single Band

Multi-Single

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 100 watts

Exchange: Ukraine: RST and 2-letter oblast; non-Ukraine: RST and serial no

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with same country; 2 points per QSO with different country, same continent; 3 points per QSO with different continent; non-UR Stations: 10 points per QSO with Ukraine

Multipliers: UR Stations: each DXCC/WAE country once per band; non-UR Stations: each DXCC/WAE country once per band; non-UR Stations: each Ukraine oblast once per band

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 1 July 2013

E-mail logs to: urdxcrty@ukr.net

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://urdx.org/rtty/rules.php?english>

QRP ARCI QRP Shootout

15:00 - 21:00 UTC 15 June (CW) and 15:00 - 21:00 UTC 16 June (SSB)

Mode: CW, SSB

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Band - All, Single, High or Low; Antenna - Rotatable or Non-rotatable;

Power - QRP or SubQRP

Exchange: ARCI: RS(T), state, province or country and ARCI no; non-ARCI: RS (T) and state, province or country and power out

Work stations: Once per band per mode

QSO Points: 5 points per QSO with ARCI member; 4 points per non-member QSO with different continent; 2 points per non-member QSO with same continent

Multipliers: States, once per band per mode; VE Provinces, once per band per mode; Countries, once per band per mode

Power Mult: (see rules)

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x (state mults and province mults and country mults) x power mult

Submit logs by: 1 July 2013

E-mail logs to: contest@qrparci.org

Mail logs to: QRP ARCI Shootout, c/o Jeff Hetherington, 139 Elizabeth St. W., Welland, Ontario L3C 4M3, Canada

Find rules at: <http://www.qrparci.org/contests/qrp-arci-contests/127-qrp-shoot-out>

Stew Perry Topband Challenge

15:00 UTC 15 June to 15:00 UTC 16 June

Mode: CW

Bands: 160 m Only

Classes: Single Op; Multi-Op

Max operating hours: 14 hours

Max power: HP: >100 watts; LP: 5 - 100 watts; QRP: <5 watts

Exchange: 4-Character grid square

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO plus 1 point per 500 km; multiply QSO points by 2 if low power station; multiply QSO points by 4 if QRP station

Multipliers: Low power: x 1.5; QRP: x 3

Score Calculation: Total score = total QSO points x power multiplier

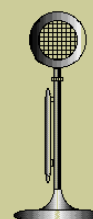
Submit logs by: 1 July 2013

E-mail logs to: tbdc@contesting.com

Mail logs to: BARC, 15125 SE Bartell Rd, Boring, OR 97009, USA

Find rules at: <http://www.kkn.net/stew/>

ARRL Kid's Day Contest



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18:00 - 23:59 UTC 15 June

Mode: SSB

Bands: 80, 40, 20, 17, 15, 12, 10, 2 m
repeaters

Classes: (none)

Exchange: name, age, QTH and favourite colour

Submit logs by: 15 July 2013

E-mail logs to: (none)

Mail logs to: (see rules)

Find rules at: www.arrl.org/kids-day

Feld Hell Sprint

20:00 - 22:00 UTC 15 June

Mode: Feld Hell

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: (none)

Max power: Standard: 100 watts; QRP:
5 watts

Exchange: (see rules)

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: (see rules)

Bonus Points: (see rules)

Multipliers: (see rules)

Score Calculation: (see rules)

Submit logs by: 22 June 2013

E-mail logs to: kj8o@wowway.com

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <https://sites.google.com/site/feldhellclub/Home/contests/sprint-rules>

Run for the Bacon QRP Contest

01:00 - 03:00 UTC 17 June

Mode: CW

Bands: 160, 80, 40, 20, 15, 10 m

Classes: Single Band; All Band

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, state, province, country
and member no or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-
member; 3 points per QSO with memberon same continent; 5 points per QSO
with member on different continentMultipliers: Each state, province or
country once; Multiply mults by 2 if >50
members workedScore Calculation: Total score = total
QSO points x total mults

Submit logs by: 23 June 2013

E-mail logs to: (none)

Upload log at: <http://fpgrp.org/pigrun/autolog.php>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at: <http://fpgrp.org/pigrun/>

NAQCC-EU Monthly Sprint

18:00 - 20:00 UTC 17 June

Mode: CW

Bands: 80, 40, 20 m

Classes: Single Op Simple Wire Antenna;
Single Op Gain Antenna

Max power: 5 watts

Exchange: RST, country and NAQCC no
or power

Work stations: Once per band

QSO Points: 1 point per QSO with non-
member; 2 points per QSO with memberMultipliers: Each country in Europe;
First country in each continent worked
other than EuropeKey Type Mult: 2x if straight key, 1.5x
if bug, 1x if otherScore Calculation: Total score = total
QSO points x total mults x key type
multSubmit logs by: 20:00 UTC 20 June
2013

Upload log at:

<http://naqcc-eu.org/eu-sprints/submit-your-log>

Mail logs to: (none)

Find rules at:

<http://naqcc-eu.org/sprints/rules/current.pdf>

Next Week's Contests

NAQCC Straight Key/Bug Sprint, 00:30 - 02:30 UTC 20 June

RSGB 80 m Club Championship, SSB, 19:00 - 20:30 UTC 20 June

His Majesty the King of Spain SSB Contest, 12:00 UTC 22 June to 12:00 UTC 23 June

Ukrainian DX Digi Contest, 12:00 UTC 22 June to 12:00 UTC 23 June

Marconi Memorial HF Contest, 14:00 UTC 22 June to 14:00 UTC 23 June

ARRL Field Day, 18:00 UTC 22 June to 21:00 UTC 23 June



HF Happenings

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Improved RTTY performance from DXpeditions

A leading DXer has objectively analysed 36 recent DXpeditions with a total of two million contacts, to find only 6,7 per cent of all QSOs were in RTTY.

Ernie Walls, VK3FM, writing in the June edition of the Wireless Institute of Australia journal, *Amateur Radio* magazine, is in praise of the good job done by DXpeditions activating far flung DX entities.

However, while most DXpeditions prepare well to service the CW and SSB demands by having good operators, they miss the boat when it comes to RTTY.

He said the mode was arguably the fastest growing on the bands and those using it deserved better from DXpeditions.

Ernie, VK3FM, claimed that in general DXpeditions do not maximise the mode, place enough resources behind it, and quite often leave it to relatively inexperienced and sometimes those apparently not terribly interested in RTTY.

Only two out the 35 DXpeditions surveyed produced a RTTY ratio above 15 per cent, which Ernie suggests indicates the current demand. He believed it was time that every well planned DXpedition select a skilled RTTY expert to give it the best shot, rather than leaving RTTY as an afterthought.

The full story "*Can a 'small pistol' station offer useful advice to a 'big gun' DXpedition?*" can be read on pages 32 and 33 of the magazine.

IARU plans for 2015 WRC

The International Amateur Radio Union is planning for the 2015 World Radiocommunication Conference.

There are a number of agenda items that impact Amateur and Amateur Satellite services. These include Agenda Item 1.1 to consider additional spectrum allocations to the Mobile Service on a Primary basis and identification of additional frequency bands for International Mobile Telecommunications and related regulatory provisions.

Item 1.4 is to consider a possible new allocation to the Amateur Service on a secondary basis within the band 5 250 to 5 450 kHz.

Item 1.6.1 will look at possible additional Primary allocations to the Fixed-Satellite Service in the range between 10 GHz and 17 GHz in ITU Region 1.

Item 1.18 will consider a Primary allocation to the Radiolocation Service for automotive applications in the 77,5 to 78,0 GHz frequency band.

Finally, Item 9.1.8 will consider the regulatory aspects for nano-satellites and pico-satellites as required by Resolution 757 passed at WRC 12.

History This Week for the week starting 14 May

1178 Proposed time of origin of lunar crater Giordano Bruno

1644 Florentine scientist, Evangelista Torricelli described in a letter the invention of a barometer

1770 Capt Cook runs aground on the Australian Great Barrier Reef (*and I am sure the navigator was severely reprimanded!*)

1834 Sandpaper patented by Isaac Fischer Jr, Springfield, Vermont

1849 Gas mask patented by Lewis Haslett, Louisville, Ky

1889 Thomas A. Edison was issued a patent for an "Electrical Distribution System"

1895 The first U.S. patent for a gasoline-driven automobile by a US inventor was issued to Charles E. Duryea

Items used with acknowledgement to The ARRL Letter, Amateur Radio Newslite, OPDX Bulletin, 425 DX Bulletin, DXNL Bulletin, ARRL DX News, WIA-News, the RSGB News and Southgate ARC News